

for the Southern District of Texas; Steven G. Bradbury to be an Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Legal Counsel; Sharee M. Freeman to be Director, Community Relations Service, U.S. Department of Justice; Jeffrey L. Sedgwick to be Director of the Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice.

II. Bills: S. 1768, A bill to permit the televising of Supreme Court proceedings—Specter, Leahy, Cornyn, Grassley, Schumer, Feingold, Durbin; S. 829, Sunshine in the Courtroom Act of 2005—Grassley, Schumer, Cornyn, Leahy, Feingold, Durbin, Graham, DeWine, Specter; S. 489, Federal Consent Decree Fairness Act—Alexander, Kyl, Cornyn, Graham, Hatch; S. 2039, Prosecutors and Defenders Incentive Act of 2005—Durbin, Specter, DeWine, Leahy, Kennedy, Feinstein, Feingold, Schumer; S. 2292, A bill to provide relief for the Federal judiciary from excessive rent charges—Specter, Leahy, Cornyn, Feinstein, Biden; S. 2453, National Security Surveillance Act of 2006—Specter; S. 2455, Terrorist Surveillance Act of 2006—DeWine, Graham.

III. Matters: S.J. Res. 1, Marriage Protection Amendment—Allard, Sessions, Kyl, Hatch, Cornyn, Coburn, Brownback; S. Res. 398, A resolution relating to the censure of George W. Bush; Feingold.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Veterans' Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, March 30, 2006, to hear the legislative presentations of the National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs, the AMVETS, the American Ex-Prisoners of War and the Vietnam Veterans of America. The hearing will take place in room 106 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building at 10 a.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations be authorized to meet on Thursday, March 30, 2006, at 10 a.m., for a hearing entitled "Neutralizing The Nuclear and Radiological Threat: Securing the Global Supply Chain (Part Two)."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on March 30, 2006 at 2:30 p.m. to hold a closed hearing.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON DISASTER PREVENTION AND PREDICTION

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee

on Disaster Prevention and Prediction be authorized to meet on Thursday, March 30, 2006, at 11 a.m., on National Polar-Orbiting Operational Environmental Satellite System (NPOESS) Oversight.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT OF GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT, THE FEDERAL WORKFORCE AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce and the District of Columbia be authorized to meet on Thursday, March 30, 2006 at 2:30 p.m., for a hearing entitled, "Fulfilling the Promise? A Review of Veterans' Preference in the Federal Government?"

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PERSONNEL

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Personnel be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on March 30, 2006, at 2 p.m., in open session to receive testimony on reserve component personnel policies in review of the Defense authorization request for fiscal year 2007.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER AND POWER

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Water and Power be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, March 30 at 2:30 p.m.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on S. 1577, to facilitate the transfer of Spearfish Hydroelectric Plant Number 1 to the city of Spearfish, SD; S. 1962 and H.R. 4000, bills to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to revise certain repayment contracts with the Bostwick Irrigation District in Nebraska, the Kansas Bostwick Irrigation District No. 2, the Frenchman-Cambridge Irrigation District, and the Webster Irrigation District No. 4, all a part of the Pick-Sloan Missouri Basin Program; S. 2028, to provide for the reinstatement of a license for a certain Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Project; S. 2035, to extend the time required for construction of a hydroelectric project in the State of Idaho; S. 2054, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of water resources in the State of Vermont; S. 2205, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain parcels of land acquired for the Blunt Reservoir and Pierre Canal features of the initial stage of the Oahe Unit, James Division, SD, to the Commission of Schools and Public Lands and the Department of Game, Fish, and Parks of the State of South Dakota for the purpose of mitigating lost wildlife habitat, on the condition that the current preferential leaseholders shall have an option to purchase the parcels from the Commission; and H.R. 3812, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to prepare a

feasibility study with respect to the Mokelumne River, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following Judiciary Committee detailees and interns be granted the privilege of the floor for the duration of debate on S. 2454, the Comprehensive Immigration Reform Act of 2006: Kenneth Cohen, George Farmakides, and Robert Newell.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

AMERICAN DIABETES ALERT DAY

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, this week, the National Medical Association sponsored American Diabetes Alert Day, with the purpose of bringing the public's attention to this distressingly prevalent disease.

Approximately 20.8 million people in the United States have diabetes; 6.2 million, or about a third of that number, are unaware that they suffer from the disease, although they have it.

Among African Americans, approximately 3.2 million people, age 20 or older, have diabetes, with as many as one-third of that number remaining undiagnosed. Yet the ravages of that disease, which can be quite silent at first, continue.

These disparities also mean higher rates of heart disease, amputations, loss of eyesight, and a host of other serious complications caused by diabetes.

African Americans are over two times as likely as non-Hispanic Whites to die from the disease. Today, nobody knows exactly why, and it needs to be explored and it needs to be eliminated.

I strongly believe that the troubling persistence of health disparities, these gaps and differences that are based on race, and even where you live at times, based on socioeconomic status—diabetes being one example—is a national issue that almost by definition affects us all.

I congratulate the National Medical Association, a very active organization, a tremendous organization, for their outreach, which they have explored through conferences and through e-mail and direct mail, for raising this awareness. A third of the people don't know they have diabetes.

All this is an issue of our common humanity, our oneness, and our commitment to one another as deserving, equal, and comparable citizens. Yet these disparities exist. Even if a person disagrees with my reasons, as others have pointed out, we all suffer the economic consequences in higher insurance rates and a compromised health system.

As a doctor, I have had the opportunity to interact with hundreds, actually thousands, of patients with a

whole variety of health problems. Oftentimes, these patients have heart problems, cardiovascular problems, as a result of diabetic complications. Some of our patients with diabetes had to have heart transplants, developing a diabetes cardiomyopathy. That was in medicine, but today in the Senate, as the majority leader, working with my colleagues, I have had the opportunity to address this issue through legislative remedies.

Two years ago, in 2004, I joined a number of our colleagues on both sides of the aisle to cosponsor legislation that I have written called Closing The Health Care Gap. It was bipartisan and it addressed the issue of disparities. Our work has been ongoing, and I look forward, in the coming weeks, to addressing another bipartisan bill with the help of, again, many of the same colleagues, including Senators KENNEDY, ENZI, and many others, that addresses these health care disparities, including diabetes.

Together we are working to craft the very best possible strategies to eliminate health care disparities all across the country. With the great work of groups such as the National Medical Association, we are able to explore and educate at the grassroots level, building support for not just this legislation but for the policies in this legislation that can eliminate these gaps over time.

Speaking of grassroots, in Nashville, TN, my hometown, on April 8, citizens will go out to the location at our Nashville Zoo for the 15th annual "Walk on the Wild Side." It is also known as "America's Walk for Diabetes." This is a nationwide walk, and it is the American Diabetes Association's signature special event.

With strong support from the business community, including sponsorship and corporate teams, the walk raises nearly \$20 million nationwide to find a cure for diabetes and to support the overall mission. I encourage those listening to sign up and throw their support behind those worthy efforts.

Dr. James Galvin, III, a close friend of mine, president of Morehouse School of Medicine, someone who has been a colleague, somebody I admire tremendously in his work at Morehouse, has said:

Diabetes is a disease about which we can do a great deal, but only when those affected are informed and empowered to take the kind of control of this disease that is now possible.

I agree. I wholeheartedly agree. I look forward to the day when all of our citizens around the country have access to quality care, no matter what location they live in, who they are, or where they are from.

ORDERS FOR FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 2006

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand in adjournment until 9:30 a.m. on Friday, March 31. I further ask that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved, and the Senate resume consideration of S. 2454, the border security bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, today we had some good debate, made good progress, had good discussion on this border security bill. We had hoped to have more votes on amendments to this bill this evening. We were unable to make that progress. But we will return tomorrow and try to set up votes on the three pending amendments.

Again, I am disappointed we could not schedule more action on this bill this week in terms of votes. We have Senators who are waiting to offer amendments, so I hope tomorrow we can reach agreement for a time-certain for the next votes. It is clear to me at this point that we will not be able to set any votes for tomorrow, and therefore I announce now that there will be no votes tomorrow. We will have multiple votes on Monday, and we will announce that schedule on Friday.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in adjournment under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:49 p.m., adjourned until Friday, March 31, 2006, at 9:30 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate March 30, 2006:

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

DANIEL L. COOPER, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY FOR BENEFITS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS FOR A TERM OF FOUR YEARS. (RE-APPOINTMENT)

FOREIGN SERVICE

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED CAREER MEMBERS OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE FOR PROMOTION WITHIN AND INTO THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE TO THE CLASS INDICATED:

CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR:

CRAIG B. ALLEN, OF VIRGINIA

CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF COUNSELOR:

ANN M. BACHER, OF FLORIDA
E. SCOTT BOZEK, OF VIRGINIA
DANIEL D. DEVITO, OF FLORIDA

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

SUBJECT TO QUALIFICATIONS PROVIDED BY LAW, THE FOLLOWING FOR PERMANENT APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADES INDICATED IN THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION.

To be lieutenant

CHRISTIAAN H. VAN WESTENDORP

To be ensign

MARY A. BARBER
MATTHEW P. BERG
CHRISTOPHER W. DANIELS
MATTHEW C. DAVIS
NATHAN P. ELDRIDGE
FRANCISCO J. FUENMAYOR
MATTHEW GLAZIEWSKI
DAVID M. GOTHAN
SARAH A. T. HARRIS
MEGHAN E. MCGOVERN
DAMIAN M. RAY
LECIA M. SALERNO
RAUL VASQUEZ DEL MERCADO
WILLIAM G. WINNER
VICTORIA E. ZALEWSKI

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

GARY D. ORTON, OF NEVADA, TO BE UNITED STATES MARSHAL FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEVADA FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE RICHARD ZENOS WINGET.

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

LT. GEN. DAVID F. MELCHER, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. ROBERT WILSON, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. MICHAEL D. ROCHELLE, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUALS FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADES INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY MEDICAL CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 531 AND 3064:

To be colonel

SOONJA CHOI, 0000
STEVEN D. CLIFT, 0000
ROBERT KASPAR, 0000
LOUIS WALKER, 0000

To be lieutenant colonel

GERARDO FRONDA, 0000
THOMAS JACKSON, 0000
RICHARD LUCCHESI, 0000
REBECCA TOMSYCK, 0000

To be major

WISLY AGUSTIN, 0000
JOE HAINES, 0000
ADAM B. KANIS, 0000
ANGELA LIJIN, 0000
MEHDY ZARANDY, 0000

WITHDRAWAL

Executive message transmitted by the President to the Senate on March 30, 2006, withdrawing from further Senate consideration the following nomination:

DANIEL P. RYAN, OF MICHIGAN, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN, WHICH WAS SENT TO THE SENATE ON FEBRUARY 14, 2005.